

309 Yoakum Pkwy #601  
Alexandria, VA 22304  
December 10, 1986

Dear Mom and Dad,

It is a dark day although not raining and rather mild. I just completed the report for my class on Neurophysiology and Artificial Intelligence. I wrote a program in Prolog which displays seven neurons and has them flash on and off as they "learn". I gave the demonstration to our class of five on Monday night and the instructor liked it. He is a graduate student working toward his Ph.D. in Computer Science.

Vickie left this morning on a trip to Columbus, Ohio. She will return late tomorrow afternoon. I will pick her up and then we are going out to dinner at Galileo, an Italian restaurant downtown. I wish you could join us. My classes are winding down. There is no final exam in the class I just told you about, but I do have a final in Artificial Intelligence class next Tuesday so I must do some studying over the weekend.

We enjoyed our short trip to Annapolis on Saturday. We had brunch at the old Middleton Tavern and then toured the Paca House which you have not seen. He was governor and moved into the mansion about 1763. It was a hotel for many years and that is what preserved it for today.

Two weeks ago I talked to a person at Martin Marietta in Baltimore. He wants me to come to work there and it is something to consider. If they offer me enough money we will move up there and buy a place to live near the harbor and Ft. McHenry. I was planning to go back up for a more formal interview last week, but over the weekend this fellow Doug fell off a ladder and ended up in the hospital. He won't be back at work until January since the company shuts down between Christmas and New Year's. A good rule to live by is never get on a ladder. I have never felt quite safe on a ladder.

We are going to Italy on December 20 and returning December 30. There is a tour package to Rome the first week and then we will spend the weekend in Naples where Vickie is hopeful of attending an opera. We have, of course, been attending the Washington Opera series here. On Friday we are going to the Kennedy Center to see a play, "Raisin in the Sun" which was around several years ago. It got very good reviews and that is why we decided to go.

I certainly hope you are both back to normal by now and ready for the holidays which really just means a lot of work. I refuse to go shopping at malls and hope we can get by without either giving or receiving gifts! Goodbye for now.

Love,

*Jim*  
Jim

P.S.

An interesting article about Truman in NYR.